**2017 Asia Think Tank Summit on “Think Tanks, Public Policy and Governance”**

22-23 November 2017, Singapore

Jointly organised by
Asia Competitiveness Institute (ACI) at Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy (LKYSSPP), National University of Singapore (NUS);
Think Tank and Civil Societies Program, The Lauder Institute, University of Pennsylvania, &
Asian Development Bank Institute;

**CONFERENCE PROGRAMME**

**Dress Code:** Business Attire

**Venue:** Lobby, Oei Tiong Ham Building, Lee Kuan Yew School of Public Policy, National University of Singapore

<table>
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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>1330 – 14:50</td>
<td>Arrival of Participants of 2017 Asia Think Tank Summit</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Registration</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Lunch Sponsored by KAS Political Dialogue Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1500 – 15:05</td>
<td>Think Tank Summit: “Why Think Tanks Are More Important Now Than Ever Before in Asia?”</td>
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<td>Rapid technological development and adoption in Asia, coupled with an increasingly competitive world environment have contributed to making the marketplace of ideas a highly contentious place. In an era defined by data overload, curated information from credible institutions become highly sought-after. This is the time when think tanks in Asia are taking on a more important role than ever before -- to help policy makers make sense of our fast changing and unpredictable world amidst seemingly endless and conflicting flows of information. The 2016 Global Go To Think Tank Index Report defines think tanks as “public-policy research analysis and engagement organizations that generate policy-oriented research, analysis, and advice on domestic and international issues, thereby enabling policymakers and the public to make informed decisions about public policy.” This session will discuss the rising number and prominence of think tanks in Asia and their influence on policy-makers in Asia and beyond.</td>
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<tr>
<td>1505 – 15:20</td>
<td>Welcome Remarks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Associate Professor Tan Khee Giap</td>
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<td>Co-Director, ACI-LKYSSPP, NUS</td>
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<td>• Dr James G. McGann</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Senior Lecturer, Lauder Institute and Director Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania</td>
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<tr>
<td>1520 – 16:20</td>
<td>Opening Remarks</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Professor Kishore Mahbubani</td>
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<td>Dean, LKYSSPP, NUS</td>
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<td>1620 – 17:20</td>
<td>Think Tank President’s Panel: Making a Difference to Policy Makers and the Public (7-9 mins each, 20 mins discussion)</td>
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<td>A Panel of 4 Presidents from across Asia will open the Summit by sharing how think tanks add value and why they are more important than every before. They will also be asked to discuss what the major policy challenges facing the region.</td>
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<td>1. Mr Huiyao Wang, Founder &amp; President, Center for China and Globalization, People’s Republic of China</td>
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<td>2. Mr Simon Tay, Chairman, Singapore Institute of International Affairs, Republic of Singapore</td>
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<td>3. Dr Ooi Kee Beng, Executive Director, Penang Institute, Malaysia</td>
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<td>4. Mr Shafqat Kakakhel (TBC), Chairman, Sustainable Development Policy Institute, Pakistan</td>
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<td>5. Dr Kamalinne Pinitpuvadol, Executive Director, International Institute for Trade and Development, Thailand</td>
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<td>Discussion</td>
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<td>Moderator</td>
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<td>Mr Christian Echle, Director, Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung Political Dialogue Asia</td>
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<tr>
<td>1620 – 17:20</td>
<td>Peace and Prosperity or Conflict or Chaos: The Role of Think Tanks in Shaping the Future of Asia (7-9 mins each, 20 mins discussion)</td>
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<td>A panel of economic and international affairs think tanks will explore the rise of Asia and the regional and global conflicts arising from historical and territorial issues persist and are joined by newly emerging threats including energy security, cyberspace and terrorism. The session aims to identify key issues confronting the region and examine the possibilities for regional cooperation and collaboration.</td>
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<td>1. Mr Yasutaka Miyazawa (TBC), Director, Research Coordination, The Japan Institute of International Affairs (JIIA)</td>
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Legend:
• Blue denotes common programme across three conferences;
• Pink denotes “2017 Asia Think Tank Summit”

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<th>Time</th>
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| 1720 – 1750 | 2. Dr Huifang Tian, Deputy Director of Global Governance Department and Senior Research Fellow, Institute of World Economics and Politics, Chinese Academy of Social Sciences, People’s Republic of China  
3. Dr Francoise Nicolas, Senior Research Fellow and Director, Center for Asian Studies, French Institute for International Affairs  
4. Dr Tae Soo Kang, Senior Research Fellow, Korea Institute of International Economic Policy  
Discussion  
Moderator  
Mr Nicholas Fang, Executive Director, Singapore Institute for International Affairs  
Round Table Discussion |
| 1750 – 1800 | Closing Remarks  
Dr James G. McGann  
Senior Lecturer, Lauder Institute and Director Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania |

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<th>Time</th>
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| 1830 – 2100 | *Sponsored by McKinsey Global Institute*  
Welcome Dinner Talk: “Conditions for Debt Sustainability: Both Private Debt and Public Debt in Asia”  
Distinguished Dinner Speaker  
Professor Naoyuki Yoshino  
Dean, Asian Development Bank Institute  
Question & Answer Session  
Moderator  
Dr Jeongmin Seong  
Senior Fellow, McKinsey Global Institute  
Dinner |

End of Programme for 22 November 2017

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**Thursday, 23 November 2017**  
**Venue: Grand Ballroom, Level 4, Grand Copthorne Waterfront Hotel, Singapore**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>0830 – 0900</td>
<td>Conference Registration</td>
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| 0900 – 0910 | Welcome Remarks  
Professor Bernard Tan  
Vice Provost (Undergraduate Education and Student Life), NUS |
| 0910 – 0920 | Welcome Remarks  
Ms Fatouma Toure Ibrahima  
Acting Director and Operations Adviser, World Bank Infrastructure and Urban Development Hub, The World Bank Group |
| 0920 – 0940 | Conference Opening Remarks by Guest of Honour  
Mdm Halimah Yacob  
President of the Republic of Singapore |
| 0940 – 0945 | Guest of Honour to launch of six books by ACI-LKYSP, NUS:  
- “2017 Annual Competitiveness Analysis and Impact of Exchange Rates on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows to ASEAN Economies”  
- “2017 Impact Estimation of Exchange Rate on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows and Annual Update of Competitiveness Analysis for 34 Greater China Economies”  
- “2017 Annual Competitiveness Analysis and Impact of Exchange Rates on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows to Sub-National Economies of India”  
- “2017 Annual Competitiveness Analysis and Impact of Exchange Rates on Foreign Direct Investment Inflows to Sub-National Economies of Indonesia”  
- “2017 Annual Indices for Expatriates and Ordinary Residents on Cost of Living, Wages and Purchasing Power for World’s Major Cities”  
- “Urban Composite Development Index for 17 Shandong Cities: Ranking and Simulation Analysis based on China’s Five Development Concepts” |
<p>| 0945 – 1030 | Coffee/Tea Break |</p>
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session</th>
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Dr Cle dan Mandri-Perrott  
Head of Infrastructure Finance and PPPs, Infrastructure, PPPs & Guarantees, The World Bank Group |
| 1050 – 1100| **Question & Answer Session**                                           |
|            | Moderator: Associate Professor Tan Khee Giap  
Co-Director, ACI-LKYSPP, NUS                                         |
| 1100 – 1120| **Keynote Address 2: “Disruptive Labor Market Trends and Opportunities”**  
Ms Anu Madgavkar  
Partner, McKinsey Global Institute                                       |
| 1120 – 1130| **Question & Answer Session**                                           |
|            | Moderator: Dr Mulya Amri  
Research Fellow & Deputy Director (Research), ACI-LKYSPP, NUS             |
| 1130 – 1150| **Keynote Address 3: “Think Tanks and Economic Competitiveness”**        |
|            | Dr James G. McGann  
Senior Lecturer, Lauder Institute and Director Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania |
| 1150 – 1200| **Question & Answer Session**                                           |
|            | Moderator: Dr Sasidaran Gopalan  
Research Fellow & Deputy Director (Administration), ACI-LKYSPP, NUS         |
| 1200 – 1400| *Sponsored by Korea Development Institute & Korea Institute for International Economic Policy*  
**Conference Luncheon Talk: “Risks and Return of Infrastructure Investment and Financing in Asia”**  
Professor Terry Marsh  
Chief Executive Officer, Quantal International and Emeritus Professor of Finance, University of California, Berkeley |
| 1230 – 1250| **Question & Answer Session**                                           |
| 1250 – 1300| **Moderator**: Associate Professor Tan Khee Giap  
Co-Director, ACI-LKYSPP, NUS                                              |
| 1300 – 1400| Lunch                                                                    |

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### Breakout Session A1: “Developing Human Capital”

Human capital accumulation is a prime driver of the growth of labor productivity and household income, which in turn provides the basis for poverty reduction and inclusive growth in Asia. Despite its importance, research on the determinants and optimal levels of such investments are still scant. Financial literacy is a particular kind of human capital which has been receiving increasing attention. As economies develop, households increase their holdings of real and financial assets, but also face an increasing diversity of financial products and need to plan for longer periods of retirement. Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) also need to increase their capacity for financial planning and record keeping to improve their ability to invest and receive financing. Many countries still in the early stages of developing national strategies for financial education. This session will focus on how policymakers can promote human capital development in Asia.

**Moderator**
Mr Huiyao Wang (TBC)
Founder & President, Center for China and Globalization, People’s Republic of China

**Lead Discussant**
Dr Peter Morgan
Senior Consulting Economist & Co-Chair, Research Department, Asian Development Bank Institute

**Discussants**
1. Professor Philippe Gugler
   Director, Center for Competitiveness, University of Fribourg; Chairman, European International Business Academy & Editor-in-Chief, Competitiveness Review
2. Dr. Kamaline Pinitpuvadol
   Executive Director, International Institute for Trade and Development
3. Mr Jitendra GC
   Director and Founder, Sajha Foundation

### Breakout Session A2: “How to Promote Small and Medium Sized Enterprises (SMEs) in Asian Region”

Despite the rising significance of Small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to the growth of Asian economies, SMEs still suffer from significant constraints pertaining to access to finance, information and new technologies. SMEs do not have the resources to hire skilled professionals and they also lack a good training system for their employees. Start-up businesses are even more difficult to get financial support from banks. They tend to borrow money from local money lenders and are charged very high rates of interest. This session will discuss about the current state of difficulties faced by SMEs and the way forward to solve those issues. Big data analysis of SMEs will make possible for banks and money lenders to evaluate SMEs. Hometown investment trust funds can support venture businesses in the region. This session will address possible solutions for the SMEs in the Asian region.

**Moderator**
Dr Sasidaran Gopalan
Research Fellow (Administration), ACI-LKYSPP, NUS

**Lead Discussant**
Dr Naoko Nemoto
Financial Economist, Asian Development Bank Institute

**Discussants**
1. Dr Young Kwon Cho
   Adjunct Professor, Business School, Chung-Ang University, South Korea
2. Dr Shin-Hui Chen
   Assistant Research Fellow, Chung-Hua Institution of Economic Research, Taipei, Taiwan, Republic of China
3. Dr Luo Hairong
   Research Fellow, Institute of World Economy, Shanghai Academy of Social Sciences, People’s Republic of China

### Question & Answer Session

**Coffee/Tea Break**

1545 – 1615

### Breakout Session A3: “How to Finance Infrastructure Investments in Asia”

The Developing Asian economies are characterized by a notable insufficiency of infrastructure. The Developing Asian economies are characterized by a notable insufficiency of infrastructure. Taking into consideration the recent climate change, which is characterized by a notable step forward in the global fight against climate change. The 2015 Paris Accord represents a significant step forward in the global fight against climate change. The

**Coffee/Tea Break**

1615 – 1630

### Breakout Session A4: “Fighting Against Climate Change”

The 2015 Paris Accord represents a significant step forward in the global fight against climate change. The

**Coffee/Tea Break**

1630 – 1715

### Breakout Session A5: “Harnessing Technology to Improve Research Capacity, Revenue and Digital Economy”

**Moderator**
Mr Syed Munir Khasru
Chairman, The Institute for Policy, Advocacy, and Governance, Bangladesh

**Lead Discussant**
Mr Kaoru Suzuki
Assistant Director, Japan International Cooperation Agency

**Discussants**
1. Ms Melissa Conley Tyler
   National Executive Director, Australia Institute of International Affairs, Australia
2. Ms Katharina Naumann
   Program Manager, Konrad Adenauer Stiftung Regional Programme Political Dialogue Asia
3. Dr Nicola Missaglia
   Research Fellow, Italian Institute for International Political Studies

### Question & Answer Session
infrastructure deficit, especially when it comes to hard infrastructure. Inadequate infrastructure has constrained both the farmers as well as small and medium enterprises (SMEs) from having meaningful and efficient access to markets in the region. With Public-Private-Partnerships (PPP) yielding mixed results, low rates of return on infrastructure investments have remained one of the critical reasons why private sector support to finance infrastructure investments have not taken off in a significant way. Considering the potential spillover effects to the region that could arise from increased infrastructure investments, this session will focus on policy strategies to not only revitalize PPP models but also search for a more robust and sustainable financing strategy to fund infrastructure investments in the region.

**Moderator**
Mr Jungwook Kim
Director and Vice President
Department of Competition Policy,
Korea Development Institute

**Lead Discussant**
Tan Sri Rastam Mohd Isa
Chairman and Chief Executive,
Institute of Strategic and International Studies, Malaysia

**Discussants**
1. Dr Wang Huitong
   Research Fellow, Institute for Finance and Economics Research, Central University of Finance and Economics, People’s Republic of China
2. Dr Cledan Mandri-Perrott
   Head of Infrastructure Finance and PPPs, Infrastructure, PPPs & Guarantees, The World Bank Group

**Question & Answer Session**

Commitments made by the signatories now need to be translated into concrete action. Due to its expected strong economic growth, Asia is predicted to become the largest emitter of CO2 by 2035. The region therefore needs to think urgently how to achieve economic growth that is environmentally sustainable. Achieving green growth requires improvements in energy efficiency, the promotion of low carbon technologies and well as an elimination of carbon-intensive practices. This transition will be costly and new financing mechanisms are needed. One new and potentially transformative idea on how to finance mitigation efforts is through local finance schemes. In this light, this session will focus on the various financing needs as well as possible sources to achieve sustainable growth in Asia.

**Moderator**
Dr Mulya Amri
Research Fellow & Deputy Director (Research), ACI-LKYSSP, NUS

**Lead Discussant**
Dr Sun Jiting
Professor, Shandong Marine Economic and Culture Research Institute,
Shandong Academy of Social Sciences, People’s Republic of China

**Discussants**
1. Dr Nguyen Manh Hai
   Director, Public Service Policy Department, Central Institute for Economic Management, Socialist Republic of Vietnam
2. Dr James G. McGann
   Senior Lecturer, Lauder Institute and Director Think Tanks and Civil Societies Program, University of Pennsylvania
3. Dr Kieth Rethy Chhem
   Cambodian Development Resource Institute, Cambodia

**Question & Answer Session**

To be co-hosted by Singapore National Committee for Pacific Economic Cooperation (SINOPEC) and East Asian Institute (EIA), National University of Singapore (NUS), Singapore

**Moderator**
Dr Zhao Lifao
Senior Research Fellow, EAI, NUS

**Lead Discussant**
Dr Lance L.P. Gore
Senior Research Fellow, EAI, NUS

**Discussants**
1. Professor Tan Kong Yam
   Co-Director, ACI-LKYSSP, NUS
2. Dr Tong Yueting
   Senior Research Fellow, EAI, NUS
3. Dr Shan Wei
   Research Fellow, EAI, NUS

**Question & Answer Session**

1715 – 1800

Breakout Session A8: Is Anyone Listening? Strategic Communications and Marketing for Think Tanks

**Moderator**
Dr Constantino Xavier
Fellow, Carnegie India

**Lead Discussant**
Ms Cynthia Wu
Executive Vice President, Shinkong Life Insurance Co Ltd & Executive Director, Shinkong Life Foundation, Taiwan, Republic of China

**Discussants**
1. Ms Cathy Yiqian Gui
   Head, Asia External Communications, McKinsey Global Institute
2. Ms Angela Mo
   Senior Manager, Policy Advocacy & Engagement, Our Hong Kong Foundation
3. Ms Lydia Ruddy
   Director for Communication, Economic Research Institute for ASEAN and East Asia (ERIA)

**Question & Answer Session**

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<th>1800 – 1830</th>
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<tr>
<td>1830 – 2100</td>
<td>Ministerial Forum: “Promoting Sustainable Economic Growth, Environmental and Social Harmony in Asia”</td>
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<tr>
<td>1900 – 2000</td>
<td><strong>Panellists:</strong></td>
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<td>• Dr Bambang Brodjonegoro</td>
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<td>Minister, National Development Planning Agency (BAPPENAS), Republic of Indonesia</td>
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<td>• Mr Lawrence Wong</td>
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<td>Minister for National Development and Second Minister for Finance, Republic of Singapore</td>
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<tr>
<td>2000 – 2030</td>
<td><strong>Question &amp; Answer Session</strong></td>
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<td>2030 – 2100</td>
<td>Dinner</td>
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End of Programme for 23 November 2017